The Bible Story in the Bible Words

The Story of Genesis

THE STORY OF GENESIS

COMMISSION ON JEWISH EDUCATION
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A Teachers' Manual containing a lesson plan for each story and other valuable suggestions for class room work is published in connection with this pupil's book.

THIS book is published from a special fund for the publication of text-books for Jewish religious schools, donated by Mr. Joseph Schonthal, of Columbus, Ohio, to the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, in memory of his beloved wife, Hermine Schonthal, of blessed memory, a true "mother in Israel," who during her lifetime was devoted to all good works. The fund is self-perpetuating and is styled

The Hermine Schonthal
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THE BIBLE STORY IN THE BIBLE WORDS

BOOK ONE

THE STORY OF GENESIS

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CINCINNATI

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TO
MY MOTHER

EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION

THE teacher of Biblical History has long been handicapped by the lack of Bible readers for Jewish children. All kinds of books have been written on the Bible and on Biblical History for children, but not until recently have students of Jewish education come to realize that there was a need for a new pupils' text-book—the Bible itself.

When the Bible itself was taught in the past, it was usually taught in Hebrew. Those children who did not attain the ability to read the Bible in the original ordinarily had to be contented with paraphrases and adaptations. They often heard of the Bible. They were told that it was the Great Book of the ages and the greatest book that the Jewish people have contributed to civilization, but they were not privileged to know the Book itself.

Now that there is an authorized Jewish translation of the Bible, there is no reason for further neglect. The Biblical narratives should be read by the children when they are young, so that they may early learn to appreciate their beauty. We have credited children with too little understanding and have resorted to media other than the Bible in the mistaken belief that these would "prepare" the child to read the Bible itself in later life. The best preparation for reading the Bible is to read the Bible, just as the best preparation for adequate living is to live adequately from day to day.

The Department of Synagogue and School Extension hopes to serve the needs of Jewish schools by publishing a series of Biblical Readers for children, of which this is the first. Aside from minor changes, the version followed is the new translation issued by the Jewish Publication Society of America. This translation adds to the insurpassable beauty of the authorized version, the results of all Biblical scholarship, ancient, medieval and modern, Jewish and Christian. Throughout, only such phrases and passages have been

omitted as seem to interpose a barrier between the child and the understanding and enjoyment of the narrative. The form of the book has also been selected with a view to the needs of young children.

It is a source of gratification to us to see this Bible Reader in its second edition revised and simplified.

EMANUEL GAMORAN

THE text used in this volume and throughout all the volumes of this series is that of the New Translation of the Holy Scriptures issued by the Jewish Publication Society of America. For permission to use this text thanks are due the publishers.

To Dr. Samuel Schulman acknowledgment is made with gratitude for reading the manuscript and generously bringing to it his great scholarship and his profound religious feeling. Thanks are also due Dr. Joseph Rauch, Dr. William Rosenau and Rabbi Louis Wolsey, the reading committee, for their helpful suggestions in preparing this revised edition.

ADELE BILDERSEE

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IN THE BEGINNING

IN the beginning God made the heaven and the earth. Now the earth was without form and darkness was upon the face of the deep; and the spirit of God was upon the face of the waters.

And God said, "Let there be light." And there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness. And God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, one day.

And God said, "Let there be a sky, in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters." And God made the sky, and divided the waters which were under the sky from the waters which were above the sky; and it was so. And God called the sky Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, a second day.

And God said, "Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together into one place, and let

the dry land appear." And it was so. And God called the dry land Earth, and the gathering together of the waters He called Seas; and God saw that it was good.

And God said, "Let the earth bring forth grass, plants with seed, and fruit-trees bearing fruit with seed, upon the earth." And it was so. And the earth brought forth grass, plants with seed, and trees bearing fruit with seed; and God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, a third day.

And God said, "Let there be lights in the sky to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days and years; and let them be for lights in the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. And God made the two great lights: the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night; and the stars. And God set them in the sky to give light upon the earth, and to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness; and God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, a fourth day.

And God said, "Let the waters swarm with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth in the heaven." And God made the great sea-monsters, and every living creature that creepeth, with which the waters swarmed, and every winged bird; and

God saw that it was good. And God blessed them, saying, "Fill the waters in the seas, and let birds fill the earth." And there was evening and there was morning, a fifth day.

And God said, "Let the earth bring forth the living creatures, cattle, and creeping things, and beasts of the earth." And it was so. And God made the beasts of the earth, and the cattle, and every thing that creepeth upon the ground; and God saw that it was good.

And God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and let him rule over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth." And God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He him; male and female created He them. And God blessed them; and God said to them, "Fill the earth, and rule it; and rule over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that creepeth upon the earth." And God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant with seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in which is a fruit with seed—to you it shall be for food; and to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. And God saw

every thing that He had made, and, behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

And the heaven and the earth were finished, and all that were in them. And on the seventh day God finished His work which He had made; and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had made. And God blessed the seventh day; because on it He rested from all His work which He had made.

—Genesis, Chapters 1, 2.

THE GARDEN OF EDEN

AND the Lord God planted a garden eastward, in Eden; and there He put the man whom He had formed. And out of the ground the Lord God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

And the Lord God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to care for it. And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat; for in the day that thou eatest of it thou shalt surely die."

Now the serpent said to the woman, "Hath God said, 'Ye shall not eat of any tree of the garden?"

And the woman said to the serpent, "Of the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat; but of the

fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, 'Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.' "

And the serpent said to the woman, "Ye shall not surely die; for God doth know that in the day ye eat of it, your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as God, knowing good and evil."

And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that it made one wise, she took of its fruit, and did eat; and she gave also to her husband, and he did eat. And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig-leaves together, and made themselves girdles.

And they heard the voice of the Lord God in the garden toward the cool of the day; and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden. And the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, "Where art thou?"

And he said, "I heard Thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself."

And He said, "Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?"

And the man said, "The woman whom Thou gavest to be with me, gave me of the tree, and I did eat."

And the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this thou hast done?"

And the woman said, "The serpent tempted me, and I did eat."

And the Lord God said to the serpent, "Because thou hast done this, cursed art thou from among all cattle, and from among all beasts of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life. And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy children and her children; they shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise their heel."

And to Adam He said, "Because thou hast hearkened to the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, 'Thou shalt not eat of it;' cursed is the ground for thy sake; in toil shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life. Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee. In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return to the ground; for out of it wast thou taken; for dust thou art, and to dust shalt thou return."

And the man called his wife's name Eve;[1] because she was the mother of all living. And the

(1) Eve comes from a Hebrew word which means life.

So He drove out the man; and He placed at the east of the garden of Eden the cherubim, and the flaming sword which turned every way.

Lord God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins, and clothed them.

So He drove out the man; and He placed at the east of the garden of Eden the cherubim, and the flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way to the tree of life.

—Genesis, Chapters 2, 3.

CAIN AND ABEL

AND ABEL was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground. And in time it came to pass that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering to the Lord. And Abel brought of the best of his flock. And the Lord looked with favor upon Abel and his offering; but upon Cain and his offering He looked not with favor. And Cain was very angry, and his face fell.

And the Lord said to Cain, "Why art thou angry? and why is thy face fallen? If thou doest well, shall it not be lifted up? And if thou doest not well, sin croucheth at the door; and unto thee is its desire, but thou mayest rule over it."

And Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.

*W6

And the Lord said to Cain, "Where is Abel, thy brother?"

And he said, "I know not; am I my brother's keeper?"

And He said, "What has thou done? The voice of thy brother's blood crieth to Me from the ground. And now cursed art thou from the ground, which hath opened her mouth to receive thy brother's blood from thy hand. When thou tillest the ground, it shall not from this time on give thee its strength. A wanderer shalt thou be in the earth."

And Cain said to the Lord, "My punishment is greater than I can bear. Behold, Thou hast driven me out this day from the land; and from Thy face shall I be hid; and I shall be a wanderer in the earth; and it will come to pass that whosoever findeth me will slay me.

And the Lord said to him, "Whoever slayeth Cain shall be punished sevenfold." And the Lord set a sign on Cain, so that any finding him should not smite him.

And Cain went out from the presence of the Lord, and dwelt in the land of Nod, to the east of Eden.

—Genesis, Chapter 4.

THE FLOOD

AND it came to pass, when more men came on the face of the earth, that the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that the thoughts of his heart were evil. And it grieved the Lord that He had made man on the earth.

And the Lord said, "I will blot out man whom I have made from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and creeping thing, and bird of the air; for it grieves Me that I have made them."

But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.

Noah was in his generations a man righteous and whole-hearted; Noah walked with God. And Noah had three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. And the earth was evil before God, and the earth was filled with wickedness. And God saw the earth, and, behold, it was evil.

And God said to Noah: "The end of all flesh is come before Me; for the earth is filled with

wickedness through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth. Make thee an ark of wood; with rooms shalt thou make the ark, and thou shalt cover it with pitch within and without. A window shalt thou make in the ark; and the door of the ark shalt thou set in the side of it; with lower, second, and third stories shalt thou make it. And I, behold, I do bring the flood of waters upon the earth; everything that is in the earth shall perish. But I will make a covenant with thee; and thou shalt come into the ark, thou, and thy sons, and thy wife, and thy sons' wives with thee. And of every living thing, two of every sort shalt thou bring into the ark, to keep them alive with thee; they shall be male and female. Of the birds, and of the cattle, of every creeping thing of the ground, two of every sort shall come to thee, to keep them alive. And take thou unto thee of all food that is eaten, and gather it to thee; and it shall be for food for thee, and for them." Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he.

And the Lord said to Noah, "Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before Me in this generation."

In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, on the seventeenth day of the second month, on the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken

"Make thee an ark."

up, and the windows of heaven were opened. And the rain came down upon the earth forty days and forty nights.

In the same day entered Noah, and Shem, and Ham, and Japheth, the sons of Noah, and Noah's wife, and the three wives of his sons with them, into the ark. And every beast, and all the cattle, and every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth, and every bird of every sort went in to Noah into the ark, two and two of all in which is the breath of life. And they that went in, went in male and female, as God commanded him; and the Lord shut him in.

And the flood was forty days upon the earth; and the waters bore up the ark, and it was lifted up above the earth. And the waters increased greatly upon the earth; and the ark went upon the face of the waters. And all the high mountains that were under the heaven were covered. And all perished that moved upon the earth, both bird, and cattle, and beast, and every swarming thing, and every man; all in whose nostrils was the breath of life, whatever was in the dry land, died. And Noah only was left, and they that were with him in the ark. And the waters were upon the earth a hundred and fifty days.

And God remembered Noah, and every living thing, and all the cattle that were with him in the

ark; and God made a wind to pass over the earth, and the waters grew less; the fountains also of the deep and the windows of heaven were stopped, and the rain from heaven was stopped. And the waters returned from off the earth continually; and after the end of a hundred and fifty days the waters went down. And the ark rested on the seventeenth day of the seventh month, upon the mountains of Ararat. And the waters went down continually until the tenth month; on the first day of the tenth month, the tops of the mountains were seen.

And it came to pass at the end of forty days, that Noah opened the window of the ark which he had made. And he sent forth a raven, and it went forth to and fro, until the waters were dried up from off the earth. And he sent forth a dove, to see if the waters were dried up from off the face of the ground. But the dove found no rest for her foot, and she returned to him to the ark, for the waters were on the face of the whole earth; and he put forth his hand, and took her, and brought her in to him into the ark. And he stayed another seven days; and again he sent forth the dove out of the ark. And the dove came in to him in the evening; and, behold, in her mouth an olive-leaf freshly

And Noah went forth, and his sons, and his wife,
and his sons' wives with him.

plucked; so Noah knew that the waters were dried up from off the earth. And he stayed seven more days; and sent forth the dove; and she returned not again to him any more.

And it came to pass in the six hundred and first year, in the first month, the first day of the first month, the waters were dried up from off the earth; and Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked, and, behold, the face of the ground was dried. And on the seven and twentieth day of the second month, was the earth dry.

And God spoke to Noah, saying, "Go forth from the ark, thou, and thy wife, and thy sons, and thy sons' wives with thee. Bring forth with thee every living thing that is with thee, both bird, and cattle, and every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth; that they may fill the earth."

And Noah went forth, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him; every beast, every creeping thing, and every bird, whatever moveth upon the earth went forth out of the ark.

And Noah built an altar unto the Lord; and the Lord said in His heart, "I will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake; neither will I again smite any more every thing living, as I

have done. While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease."

And God spoke to Noah, and to his sons with him, saying, "As for Me, behold, I make a covenant with you, and with your children after you; and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the cattle, and every beast of the earth with you; with all that go out of the ark. I will make a covenant with you; neither shall all be cut off any more by the waters of the flood; neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth."

And God said: "This is the sign of the covenant which I make between Me and you and every living creature that is with you, for ever; I have set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a sign of a covenant between Me and the earth. And it shall come to pass, when I bring clouds over the earth, and the bow is seen in the cloud, that I will remember My covenant, which is between Me and you and every living creature; and the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all. And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature that is upon

the earth." And God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant which I have made between Me and all the earth."

—Genesis, Chapters 6-9.

THE TOWER OF BABEL

AND the whole earth was of one language and of one speech. And it came to pass, as they journeyed east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar; and they dwelt there.

And they said one to another, "Come, let us make brick, and burn them thoroughly." And they had brick for stone, and slime had they for mortar. And they said, "Come, let us build us a city, and a tower, with its top in heaven, and let us make us a name; so that we shall not be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth."

And the Lord came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men built. And the Lord said, "Behold, they are one people, and they have all one language; and this is what they begin to do; and now nothing will be withheld from them, which they plan to do. Come, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech."

So the Lord scattered them abroad from there

And they said, "Come, let us build us a city, and a tower, with its top in heaven, and let us make us a name."

upon the face of all the earth; and they left off to build the city. Therefore was the name of it called Babel;[1] because the Lord did there confound the language of all the earth; and from there did the Lord scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth. —Genesis, Chapter 11.

(1) Babel comes from a Hebrew word which means to confound.

THE CALL OF ABRAHAM

NOW the Lord said to Abraham: "Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, to the land that I will show thee. And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and be thou a blessing. And I will bless them that bless thee; and in thee shall all the families of the earth be blessed."

So Abraham went, as the Lord had spoken to him; and Lot went with him. And Abraham was seventy-five years old when he went out of Haran. And Abraham took Sarah, his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their flocks and herds, and their servants; and they went into the land of Canaan. And Abraham pased through the land to the place of Shechem.

And the Lord appeared to Abraham, and said, "To thy children will I give this land;" and he built there an altar to the Lord, who appeared to him.

And they went forth to go into the land of Canaan.

And he removed from there to the mountain on the east of Beth-el, and pitched his tent, having Beth-el on the west; and he built there an altar to the Lord, and called upon the name of the Lord. And Abraham journeyed, going on toward the South.

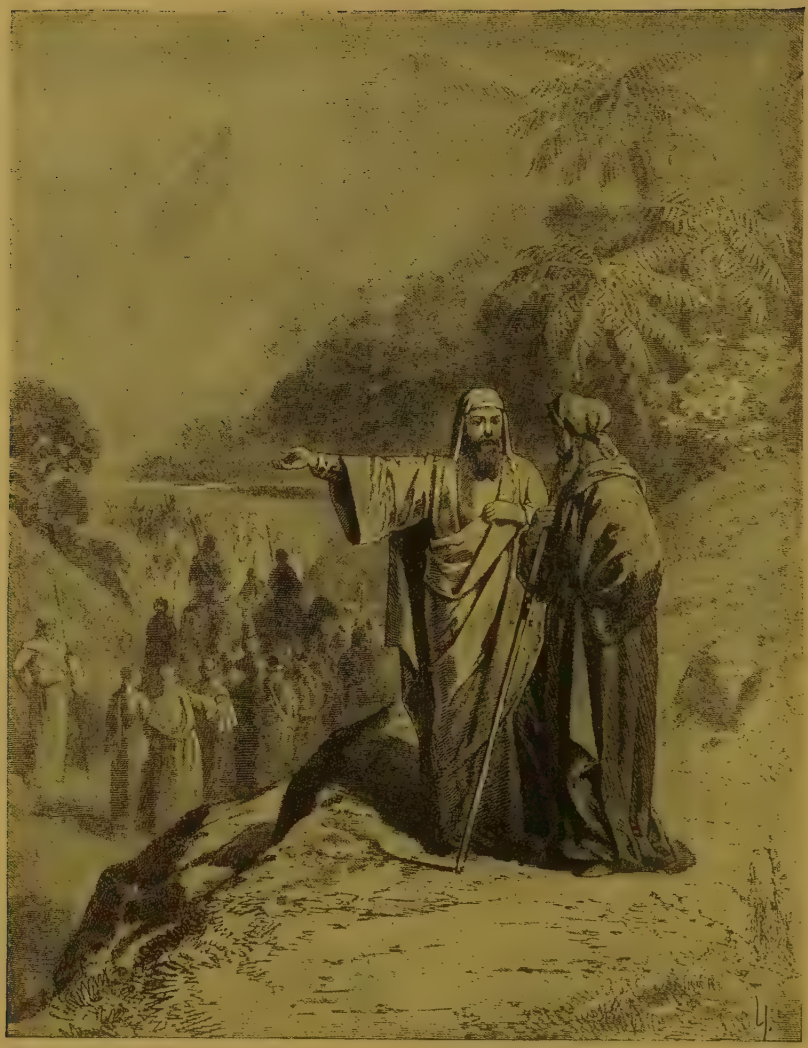
—Genesis. Chapter 12.

ABRAHAM AND LOT

AND Abraham was very rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold. And he went on his journeys from the South to Beth-el, to the place where his tent had been at the beginning, to the place of the altar, which he had made there at first; and Abraham called there on the name of the Lord. And Lot also, who went with Abraham, had flocks, and herds, and tents.

And the land was not able to bear them, that they might dwell together; for their herds were great, so that they could not dwell together. And there was a strife between the herdsmen of Abraham's cattle and the herdsmen of Lot's cattle.

And Abraham said to Lot, "Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee, and between my herdsmen and thy herdsmen; for we are brothers. Is not the whole land before thee? Separate thyself, I pray thee, from me; if thou wilt take



So Lot chose all the plain of Jordan; and Lot journeyed east; and they separated themselves the one from the other.

the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if thou take the right hand, then I will go to the left."

And Lot lifted up his eyes, and saw all the plain of the Jordan, that it was well watered everywhere, like the garden of the Lord. So Lot chose all the plain of the Jordan; and Lot journeyed east; and they separated themselves the one from the other. Abraham dwelt in the land of Canaan, and Lot dwelt in the cities of the Plain, and moved his tent as far as Sodom. Now the men of Sodom were wicked and sinners against the Lord exceedingly.

And the Lord said to Abraham, after Lot was separated from him: "Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art, northward and southward and eastward and westward; for all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed forever. And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth; so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, then shall thy seed also be numbered. Arise, walk through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it; for to thee will I give it."

And Abraham moved his tent, and came and dwelt in Hebron, and built there an altar to the Lord. —Genesis, Chapter 13.

THE BATTLE OF THE FIVE KINGS

AND it came to pass that there went out the king of Sodom, and the king of Gomorrah, and three other kings, and they set the battle in array in the vale of Siddim against four other kings; five kings against four.

Now the vale of Siddim was full of slime pits; and the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled, and they fell there, and they that remained fled to the mountain. And they took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah, and all their food, and went their way. And they took Lot, Abraham's brother's son, who dwelt in Sodom, and his goods, and departed.

And there came one that had escaped, and told Abraham, the Hebrew. And when Abraham heard that his brother's son was taken captive, he led forth his trained men, three hundred and eighteen, and pursued. And he divided himself against them by night, he and his servants, and smote them, and pursued them. And he brought back all the goods, and also brought back Lot, and his goods, and the women also, and the people.

And the king of Sodom went out to meet him, after his return. And the king of Sodom said to Abraham, "Give me the persons, and take the goods to thyself."

And Abraham said to the king of Sodom, "I have lifted up my hand to the Lord, God Most High, Maker of heaven and earth, that I will not take a thread nor a shoe-latchet nor aught that is thine, lest thou shouldest say, 'I have made Abraham rich.' Excepting only that which the young men have eaten and the portion of the men that went with me; let them take their portion."

—Genesis, Chapter 14.

THE FAITH OF ABRAHAM

AFTER these things the word of the Lord came to Abraham, saying, "Fear not, Abraham, I am thy shield, thy reward shall be exceedingly great."

And Abraham said, "O Lord, what wilt thou give me, seeing I am childless, and he that shall own my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abraham said, "Behold, to me Thou hast given no children, and, lo, one born in my house is to be mine heir."

And, behold, the word of the Lord came to him, saying, "This man shall not be thine heir; but thine own son shall be thine heir." And he brought Abraham out, and said, "Look now toward heaven, and count the stars, if thou be able to count them;" and He said unto him, "So many shall thy seed be."

And he believed in the Lord; and He counted it to him for righteousness.

And the Lord appeared to him as he sat in the tent door in the heat of the day; and he lifted

up his eyes and looked, and, behold, three men stood before him; and when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and bowed down to the earth, and said, "My lord, if now I have found favor in thy sight, pass not away, I pray thee, from thy servant. Let now a little water be fetched, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. And I will fetch a morsel of bread; after that ye shall pass on."

And they said, "So do, as thou hast said."

And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of fine meal, knead it, and make cakes."

And Abraham ran to the herd, and fetched a calf tender and good, and gave it to the servant; and he hastened to make it ready. And he took curd, and milk, and the calf, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree, and they did eat.

And they said to him, "Where is Sarah, thy wife?"

And he said, "Behold, in the tent."

And they said, "We will certainly return to thee; and, lo, Sarah thy wife shall have a son."

And Sarah heard in the tent door, which was behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old. And Sarah laughed to herself.

And the Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, saying, 'Shall I who am old bear a

child?' Is anything too hard for the Lord? At the set time I will return to thee and Sarah shall have a son."

Then Sarah said, "I laughed not;" for she was afraid.

And He said, "Nay; but thou didst laugh."

—Genesis. Chapters 15, 18.

SODOM AND GOMORRAH

AND the men rose up from there, and looked out toward Sodom; and Abraham went with them to bring them on the way.

And the Lord said, "Shall I hide from Abraham that which I am doing, seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? For I have known him, so that he may command his children and his household after him, that they may keep the way of the Lord, to do righteousness and justice; so that the Lord may bring upon Abraham that which He hath spoken of him."

And the Lord said, "The cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and their sin is very great. I will go down now, and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it, which is come to Me; and if not, I will know."

And the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom; but Abraham stood yet before the Lord. And Abraham drew near, and said, "Wilt

Thou indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? Perhaps there are fifty righteous within the city; wilt Thou indeed sweep away and not forgive the place for the fifty righteous that are in it? Far be it from Thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous should be as the wicked; that be far from Thee. Shall not the Judge of all the earth do justly?"

And the Lord said, "If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will forgive all the place for their sake."

And Abraham answered and said, "Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak to the Lord, I, who am but dust and ashes. Perhaps there shall lack five of the fifty righteous; wilt Thou destroy all the city for lack of five?"

And the Lord said, "I will not destroy it if I find there forty and five."

And Abraham spoke to Him yet again, and said, "Perhaps there shall be forty found there."

And the Lord said, "I will not do it for the forty's sake."

And Abraham said, "Oh, let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak. Perhaps there shall thirty be found there."

And the Lord said, "I will not do it if I find thirty there."

And Abraham said, "Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak to the Lord. Perhaps there shall be twenty found there."

And the Lord said, "I will not destroy it for the twenty's sake."

And he said, "Oh, let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak yet but this once. Perhaps ten shall be found there."

And the Lord said, "I will not destroy it for the tens' sake."

And the angels came to Sodom in the evening; and Lot sat in the gate of Sodom; and Lot saw them, and rose up to meet them; and he bowed down with his face to the earth. And he said, "Behold now, my lords, turn aside, I pray you, into your servant's house, and stay all night, and wash your feet, and ye shall rise up early, and go on your way."

And they said, "Nay; but we will stay in the open all night."

And he urged them greatly; and they turned in to him, and entered into his house; and he made them a feast, and did bake unleavened bread, and they did eat.

But before they lay down, the men of the city, the men of Sodom, surrounded the house, both young and old, all the people from every quarter. And they called to Lot, and said to him, "Where are

the men that came in to thee this night? Bring them out to us."

And Lot went out to them to the door, and shut the door after him. And he said, "I pray you, my brothers, do not so wickedly. To these men do nothing; for they are under the shadow of my roof."

And they said, "Stand back." And they said, "This one fellow came in to dwell here, and he will play the judge! Now will we deal worse with thee, than with them."

And they pressed hard upon Lot, and drew near to break the door. But the men put forth their hand, and brought Lot into the house to them, and the door they shut.

And they smote the men that were at the door of the house with blindness, both small and great; so that they wearied themselves trying to find the door.

And the men said to Lot, "Hast thou here any besides? Sons-in-law, and thy sons, and thy daughters, and whomever thou hast in the city, bring them out of the place. For we will destroy this place, because the cry of them is great before the Lord; and the Lord hath sent us to destroy it."

And Lot went out, and spoke to his sons-in-law, who married his daughters, and said, "Up, get you out of this place; for the Lord will destroy the city."

"Escape for thy life; look not behind thee, neither stay thou in all the Plain."

But he seemed to his sons-in-law as one who jested.

And when the morning arose, then the angels hastened Lot, saying, "Arise, take thy wife, and thy two daughters that are here; so that thou may not be swept away in the wickedness of the city."

But he delayed; and the men took hold of his hand, and of the hand of his wife, and of the hand of his two daughters; the Lord being merciful to him. And they brought him forth, and set him outside the city.

And it came to pass, when they had brought them forth, that they said, "Escape for thy life; look not behind thee, neither stay thou in all the Plain. Escape to the mountain, so that thou be not swept away."

Then the Lord caused fire out of heaven to rain upon Sodom and Gomorrah. And He overthrew those cities, and all the Plain, and all the people of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground.

But his wife looked back from behind him, and she became a pillar of salt.

And Abraham got up early in the morning to the place where he had stood before the Lord. And he looked out toward Sodom and Gomorrah, and toward all the land of the Plain, and beheld, and the smoke of the land went up as the smoke of a furnace. —Genesis, Chapters 18, 19.

HAGAR AND ISHMAEL

AND the Lord remembered Sarah as He had promised. And Sarah bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him. And Abraham called the name of his son that was born unto him, whom Sarah bore to him, Isaac.

And the child grew, and was weaned. And Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned.

And Sarah saw the son of Hagar making sport of Isaac. Wherefore she said to Abraham, "Cast out this bondwoman and her son; for the son of this bondwoman shall not be heir with my son Isaac."

And the thing grieved Abraham on account of his son.

And God said to Abraham, "Let it not grieve thee because of the lad, and because of thy bondwoman; in all that Sarah saith to thee, hearken to her voice; for through Isaac shall children be born

And the water in the bottle was gone.

to thee. And also of the son of the bondwoman will I make a nation, because he is thy child."

And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and took bread and a bottle of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, and the child, and sent her away; and she went, and strayed in the wilderness.

And the water in the bottle was gone, and she placed the child under one of the shrubs. And she went, and sat down a good way off; for she said, "Let me not look upon the death of the child." And she wept.

And God heard the voice of the boy; and the angel of God called to Hagar out of heaven, and said to her, "What aileth thee, Hagar? Fear not; for God hath heard the voice of the child. Arise, lift up thy head, and hold him fast by thy hand; for I will make him a great nation."

And God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water; and she went, and filled the bottle with water, and gave the boy drink.

And God was with the boy, and he grew; and he dwelt in the wilderness, and became an archer.

—Genesis, Chapter 21.

THE TRIAL OF ABRAHAM

AND it came to pass after these things, that God did prove Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham"; and he said, "Here am I." And God said, "Take now thy son, thine only son, whom thou lovest, even Isaac, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of."

And Abraham rose early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young men, and Isaac his son; and he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went to the place of which God had told him.

On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place afar off. And Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the ass, and I and the lad will go yonder; and we will worship, and come back to you."

And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering, and laid it upon Isaac his son; and he took in his hand the fire and the knife; and they went both of them together.

And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering, and laid it upon Isaac his son.

And Isaac spoke to Abraham his father, and said, "My father."

And Abraham said, "Here am I, my son."

And Isaac said, "Behold the fire and the wood; but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?"

And Abraham said, "God Himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So both of them went together.

And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built the altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar, upon the wood. And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son.

And the angel of the Lord called to him out of heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham." And Abraham said, "Here am I."

And God said, "Lay not thy hand upon the lad, neither do thou anything to him; for now I know that thou art a God-fearing man, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son, from Me."

And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and, behold, behind him a ram caught in the thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the

ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering instead of his son.

So Abraham returned to his young men, and they rose up and went together to Beer-sheba; and Abraham dwelt at Beer-sheba.

—Genesis, Chapter 22.

THE DEATH OF SARAH

AND the life of Sarah was a hundred and seven and twenty years; these were the years of the life of Sarah. And Sarah died in Hebron, in the land of Canaan; and Abraham came to mourn for Sarah, and to weep for her.

And Abraham rose up from before his dead, and spoke to the children of Heth, saying, "I am a stranger with you; give me a burying-place with you, that I may bury my dead out of my sight."

And the children of Heth answered Abraham, saying to him, "Hear us, my lord. Thou art a mighty prince among us. In the choice of our burying-places bury thy dead. None of us shall withhold from thee his burying-place."

And Abraham rose up and bowed down to the people of the land, to the children of Heth. And he spoke with them, saying, "If it be your mind that I should bury my dead out of my sight, hear me, and speak for me to Ephron, that he may give me the cave of Machpelah, which he hath, which is in the

end of his field; for the full price let him give it to me for a burying-place."

Now Ephron was in the midst of the children of Heth; and Ephron the Hittite answered Abraham in the hearing of the children of Heth, at the gate of his city, saying, "Nay, my lord, hear me. The field give I thee, and the cave that is in it, I give it thee; in the presence of the sons of my people I give it to thee; bury thy dead."

And Abraham bowed down before the people of the land. And he spoke to Ephron in the hearing of the people of the land, saying, "But if thou wilt, I pray thee, hear me. I will give the price of the field; take it of me, and I will bury my dead there."

And Ephron answered Abraham, saying to him, "My lord, hearken to me. A piece of land worth four hundred shekels of silver, what is that between me and thee? Bury, therefore, thy dead."

And Abraham hearkened to Ephron; and Abraham weighed out for Ephron the silver, which he had named in the hearing of the children of Heth, four hundred shekels of silver. So the field of Ephron, which was in Machpelah, the field, and the cave which was in it, and all the trees that were in the field were made sure to Abraham

for a possession in the presence of the children of Heth, at the gate of his city.

And after this, Abraham buried Sarah his wife in the cave of the field of Machpelah before Hebron, in the land of Canaan. And the field, and the cave that is in it, were made sure unto Abraham for a possession of a burying-place by the children of Heth. —Genesis, Chapter 23.

THE SEARCH FOR A WIFE FOR ISAAC

AND Abraham was old; and the Lord had blessed Abraham in all things. And Abraham said to his servant, the elder of his house, that ruled over all that he had, "Swear, I pray thee, by the Lord, the God of heaven and the God of the earth, that thou shalt not take a wife for my son of the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I dwell. But thou shalt go to my country, and to my kindred, and take a wife for my son Isaac."

And the servant said to him, "Perhaps the woman will not be willing to follow me to this land; must I bring thy son back to the land from which thou camest?"

And Abraham said to him, "Beware thou that thou take not my son back there.

"The Lord, the God of heaven, who took me from my father's house, and from the land where I was born, and who spoke to me, and who swore to me, saying, 'Unto thy seed will I give this land,' He will send His angel before thee, and thou shalt take a wife for my son from there. And if the

woman be not willing to follow thee, then thou shalt be free from my oath; only thou shalt not bring my son back there."

And the servant swore to him concerning this matter.

And the servant took ten camels, of the camels of his master, and went, having all good things of his master's in his hand. And he arose, and went to Aram-naharaim,[1] to the city of Nahor. And he made the camels kneel down outside the city by the well of water at the time of evening, the time that women go out to draw water.

And he said, "O Lord, the God of my master Abraham, send me, I pray thee, good speed this day, and show kindness to my master Abraham. Behold, I stand by the fountain of water; and the daughters of the men of the city come out to draw water. So let it come to pass, that the maiden to whom I shall say, 'Let down thy pitcher, I pray thee, that I may drink;' and she shall say, "Drink, and I will give thy camels drink also;' let the same be she that Thou hast appointed for Isaac; and thereby shall I know that Thou hast shown kindness to my master.

And it came to pass, before he had done speaking, that behold, Rebekah came out, who was born to Bethuel, the son of Milcah, the wife of Nahor,

(1) Aram-naharaim is Mesopotamia.

Abraham's brother, with her pitcher upon her shoulder. And the maiden was very fair to look upon. And she went down to the fountain and filled her pitcher and came up.

And the servant ran to meet her, and said, "Give me to drink, I pray thee, a little water of thy pitcher."

And she said, "Drink, my lord." And she hastened, and let down her pitcher upon her hand, and gave him drink. And when she had done giving him drink, she said, "I will draw water for thy camels also, until they have done drinking."

And she hastened, and emptied her pitcher into the trough, and ran again to the well to draw, and drew for all his camels. And the man looked steadily at her, holding his peace, to know whether the Lord had made his journey prosperous or not.

And it came to pass, as the camels had done drinking, that the man took a golden ring and two bracelets for her hands, and said, "Whose daughter art thou? Tell me, I pray thee. Is there room in thy father's house for us to lodge in?"

And she said to him, "I am the daughter of Bethuel, the son of Milcah." She said moreover

And she hastened, and emptied her pitcher into the trough, and ran again to the well to draw, and drew for all his camels.

to him, "We have both straw and food for the cattle, and the room to lodge in."

And the man bowed himself before the Lord. And he said, "Blessed be the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who hath not forsaken His mercy and His truth toward my master. As for me, the Lord hath led me in the way to the house of my master's brothers."

And the maiden ran, and told them of her mother's house according to these words.

And Rebekah had a brother, and his name was Laban. And it came to pass, when he saw the ring, and the bracelets upon his sister's hands, and when he heard the words of Rebekah his sister, saying, "Thus spoke the man to me," that he came to the man; and, behold, he stood by the camels at the fountain. And he said, "Come in, thou blessed of the Lord. Why standest thou outside? For I have cleared the house, and made room for the camels."

And the man came into the house, and he ungirded the camels; and he gave straw and food for the camels, and the water to wash his feet and the feet of the men that were with him. And there was set food before him to eat; but he said, "I will not eat, until I have told mine errand." And he said, "Speak on."

And he said, "I am Abraham's servant. And the Lord hath blessed my master greatly; and he is

become great; and He hath given him flocks and herds, and silver and gold, and men-servants and maid-servants, and camels and asses.

"And Sarah, my master's wife, bore a son to my master when she was old. And to him hath he given all that he hath. And my master made me swear, saying, 'Thou shalt not take a wife for my son of the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I dwell. But thou shalt go to my father's house, and to my kindred, and take a wife for my son.'

"And I said to my master, 'Perhaps the woman will not follow me.' And he said to me, "The Lord, before whom I walk, will send His angel with thee, and prosper thy way; and thou shalt take for my son a wife of my kindred, and of my father's house; then shalt thou be free from my oath, when thou comest to my kindred; and if they give her not to thee, thou shalt be free from my oath.'

"And I came this day to the fountain and said, 'O Lord, the God of my master Abraham, if now Thou do prosper my way which I go; behold, I stand by the fountain of water; and let it come to pass, that the maiden that cometh forth to draw, to whom I shall say, "Give me, I pray thee, a little water from thy pitcher to drink," and she shall say to me, "Both drink thou, and I will also draw for thy camels;" let the same be the woman whom the Lord hath appointed for my master's son.'

"And before I had done speaking to my heart, behold, Rebekah came forth with her pitcher on her shoulder; and she went down to the fountain, and drew. And I said to her, 'Let me drink, I pray thee.' And she made haste, and let down her pitcher from her shoulder, and said, 'Drink, and I will give thy camels drink also.' So I drank, and she made the camels drink also.

"And I asked her, and said, 'Whose daughter art thou?' And she said, 'The daughter of Bethuel.' And I put the ring upon her nose, and the bracelets upon her hands. And I bowed my head before the Lord, and blessed the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me in the right way to take my master's brother's daughter for his son.

"And now if ye will deal kindly and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me; that I may turn to the right hand, or to the left."

Then Laban and Bethuel answered and said, "The thing cometh from the Lord; we cannot speak to thee bad or good. Behold, Rebekah is before thee; take her, and go, and let her be thy master's son's wife, as the Lord hath spoken."

And it came to pass, that, when Abraham's servant heard their words, he bowed himself down to the earth to the Lord.

And the servant brought forth jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and garments, and gave them to

Rebekah. He gave also to her brother and to her mother precious things. And they did eat and drink, he and the men that were with him, and stayed all night.

And they rose up in the morning, and he said, "Send me away to my master."

And her brother and her mother said, "Let the maiden stay with us a few days, at the least ten; after that she shall go."

And he said to them, "Delay me not, seeing the Lord hath prospered my way; send me away that I may go to my master."

And they said, "We will call the maiden, and ask her." And they called Rebekah, and said to her, "Wilt thou go with this man?" And she said, "I will go."

And they sent away Rebekah their sister, and her nurse, and Abraham's servant, and his men. And they blessed Rebekah, and said to her, "Our sister, be thou the mother of thousands of ten thousands."

And Rebekah arose, and her maidens, and they rode upon the camels, and followed the man. And the servant took Rebekah, and went his way.

And Isaac went out in the field at the time of evening. And he lifted up his eyes, and saw, and, behold, there were camels coming.

And Rebekah lifted up her eyes, and when she

saw Isaac she got down from the camel. And she said to the servant, "What man is this that walketh in the field to meet us?" And the servant said, "It is my master." And she took her veil and covered herself.

And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. And Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent, and took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. And Isaac was comforted for his mother.

—Genesis, Chapter 24.

THE WELLS WHICH ISAAC DIGGED

AND Abraham died in a good old age, an old man, and full of years. And Isaac and Ishmael his sons buried him in the cave of Machpelah, in the field of Ephron the Hittite, the field which Abraham bought from the children of Heth; there was Abraham buried, and Sarah his wife.

And it came to pass after the death of Abraham, that God blessed Isaac his son; and Isaac dwelt by Beer-lahai-roi.

And there was a famine in the land. And Isaac went to Abimelech, king of the Philistines, to Gerar.

And Isaac sowed in that land, and reaped in the same year a hundredfold; and the Lord blessed him. And the man grew more and more until he became very great. And he had flocks, and herds, and a great household; and the Philistines envied him.

And Abimelech said to Isaac, "Go from us; for thou art much mightier than we."

And Isaac went away, and encamped in the valley of Gerar, and dwelt there. And Isaac's serv-

ants digged in the valley, and found there a well of living water.

And the herdsmen of Gerar strove with Isaac's herdsmen, saying, "The water is ours." And he called the name of the well Esek;[1] because they strove with him.

And they digged another well, and they strove for that also. And he called the name of it Sitnah.[2]

And he went away, and digged another well; and for that they strove not. And he called the name of it Rehoboth,[3] and he said, "For now the Lord hath made room for us, and we shall be fruitful in the land.

And he went up from there to Beer-sheba. And the Lord appeared to him the same night, and said, "I am the God of Abraham thy father. Fear not, for I am with thee, and will bless thee, and make thy seed great for My servant Abraham's sake." And he built an altar there, and called upon the name of the Lord, and pitched his tent there; and there Isaac's servants digged a well.

Then Abimelech went to him from Gerar, and his friend, and the captain of his host. And Isaac said to them, "Why are ye come to me, seeing ye hate me, and have sent me away from you?"

And they said, "We saw plainly that the Lord was with thee; and we said, 'Let there now be an

(1) Esek means Strife; (2) Sitnah Enmity; (3) Rehoboth, Room.

oath between us, between us and thee, and let us make a covenant with thee; that thou wilt do us no hurt, as we have not touched thee, and as we have done to thee nothing but good, and have sent thee away in peace.' Thou art now the blessed of the Lord."

And he made them a feast, and they did eat and drink. And they rose up early in the morning, and swore one to another; and Isaac sent them away, and they went away from him in peace.

And it came to pass the same day, that Isaac's servants came, and told him concerning the well which they had digged, and said to him, "We have found water." And he called it Shibah.[1] Therefore the name of the city is Beer-sheba[2] unto this day. —Genesis, Chapters 25, 26.

(1) Shibah means Oath; (2) Beer-sheba, Well of the Oath.

THE BIRTHRIGHT

NOW Rebekah bore sons. And the boys grew. And Esau was a cunning hunter, a man of the field; and Jacob was a quiet man, dwelling in tents. Now Isaac loved Esau, because he did eat of his venison; and Rebekah loved Jacob.

And Jacob cooked pottage. And Esau came in from the field, and he was faint. And Esau said to Jacob, "Let me swallow, I pray thee, some of this red, red pottage; for I am faint."

And Jacob said, "Sell me first thy birthright."

"And Esau said, "Behold, I am going to die; and what profit shall the birthright bring to me?"

And Jacob said, "Swear to me first;" and he swore to him; and he sold his birthright to Jacob.

And Jacob gave Esau bread and pottage of lentils; and he did eat and drink, and rose up, and went his way. So Esau despised his birthright.

—Genesis, Chapter 25.

THE BLESSING

AND it came to pass that when Isaac was old, and his eyes were dim, so that he could not see, he called Esau his elder son, and said to him, "My son;" and he said to him, "Here am I."

And he said, "Behold now, I am old. I know not the day of my death. Now therefore take, I pray thee, thy weapons, thy quiver and thy bow, and go out to the field and bring me venison; and make me food such as I love, and bring it to me that I may eat; that my soul may bless thee before I die."

And Rebekah heard when Isaac spake to Esau his son. And Esau went to the field to hunt for venison, and to bring it.

And Rebekah spoke to Jacob, her son, saying, "Behold, I heard thy father speak to Esau thy brother, saying, 'Bring me venison, that I may eat, and bless thee before the Lord before my death.' Now, therefore, my son, hearken to my voice according to that which I command thee. Go now to the flock, and fetch me two good kids of the goats;

and I will make them food for thy father, such as he loveth; and thou shalt bring it to thy father, that he may eat, so that he may bless thee before his death.

And Jacob said to Rebekah his mother, "Behold, Esau my brother is a hairy man, and I am a smooth man. My father perhaps will feel me, and I shall seem to him as a mocker; and I shall bring a curse upon me, and not a blessing."

And his mother said to him, "Upon me be thy curse, my son. Only hearken to my voice, and go fetch me them."

And he went, and fetched, and brought them to his mother. And his mother made food, such as his father loved.

And Rebekah took the choicest garments of Esau her elder son, which were with her in the house, and put them upon Jacob her younger son. And she put the skins of the kids of the goats upon his hands, and upon the smooth of his neck. And she gave the food and the bread, which she had prepared, into the hand of her son Jacob.

And he came to his father, and said, "My father."

And he said, "Here am I. Who art thou, my son?"

And Jacob said to his father, "I am Esau, thy first-born. I have done according as thou badest

"Blessed be every one that blesseth thee."

me. Arise, I pray thee, sit and eat of my venison, that thy soul may bless me."

And Isaac said to his son, "How is it that thou hast found it so quickly, my son?"

And he said, "Because the Lord thy God sent me good speed."

And Isaac said to Jacob, "Come near, I pray thee, that I may feel thee, my son, whether thou be my very son Esau or not."

And Jacob went near to Isaac his father; and he felt him, and said, "The voice is the voice of Jacob, but the hands are the hands of Esau." And he knew him not, because his hands were hairy, as his brother Esau's hands; so he blessed him.

And he said, "Art thou my very son, Esau?" And he said, "I am." And he said, "Bring it near to me, and I will eat of my son's venison, that my soul may bless thee." And he brought it near to him, and he did eat; and he brought him wine, and he drank.

And his father Isaac said to him, "Come near now, and kiss me, my son." And he came near, and kissed him. And he smelled his garments, and blessed him, and said:

"See, the smell of my son
Is as the smell of a field which the Lord hath blessed.
So God give thee of the dew of heaven,
And of the fat places of the earth,

And plenty of corn and wine.
Let peoples serve thee,
And nations bow down to thee.
Be lord over thy brethren,
And let thy mother's sons bow down to thee.
Cursed be every one that curseth thee,
And blessed be every one that blesseth thee."

And it came to pass, as soon as Isaac had made an end of blessing Jacob, and Jacob was yet scarce gone out from the presence of Isaac his father, that Esau his brother came in from his hunting. And he also made food, and brought it to his father; and he said to his father, "Let my father arise, and eat of his son's venison, that thy soul may bless me."

And Isaac his father said to him, "Who art thou?" And he said, "I am thy son, thy first-born, Esau."

And Isaac trembled exceedingly, and said, "Who then is he that hath taken venison, and brought it to me, and I have eaten of all before thou camest, and have blessed him? yea, and he shall be blessed."

When Esau heard the words of his father, he cried with a great and bitter cry, and said to his father, "Bless me, even me also, O my father."

And he said, "Thy brother came with falsehood, and hath taken taken away thy blessing."

And he said, "Is he not rightly named Jacob[1]? For he hath taken my place these two times: he took away my birthright; and, behold, now he hath taken away my blessing." And he said, "Hast thou not kept a blessing for me?"

And Isaac answered and said to Esau, "Behold, I have made him thy lord, and all his brothers have I given to him for servants; and corn and wine have I given him. And what then shall I do for thee, my son?"

And Esau said to his father, "Hast thou but one blessing, my father? Bless me, even me also, O my father." And Esau lifted up his voice and wept.

And Isaac his father answered and said to him:

"Behold, of the fat places of the earth shall be thy dwelling,
And of the dew of heaven from above;
And by thy sword shalt thou live, and thou shalt serve thy brother.
And it shall come to pass when thou shalt break loose,
That thou shalt shake his yoke from off thy neck."

And Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing with which his father blessed him. And Esau said in his heart, "Let the days of mourning for my father be at hand; then will I slay my brother Jacob."

(1) Jacob means one who takes the place that belongs to another.

And the words of Esau her elder son were told to Rebekah. And she sent and called Jacob her younger son, and said to him, "Behold, thy brother Esau doth comfort himself, intending to kill thee. Now therefore, my son, hearken to my voice; and arise, flee thou to Laban my brother to Haran; and stay with him a few days, until thy brother's anger turn away from thee, and he forget that which thou hast done to him; then I will send and fetch thee from there. Why should I lose you both in one day?" —Genesis, Chapter 27.

THE HOUSE OF GOD

AND Jacob went out from Beer-sheba, and went toward Haran. And he came to a place, and stayed there all night, because the sun was set. And he took one of the stones of the place, and put it under his head, and lay down in that place to sleep.

And he dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven; and behold the angels of God going up and coming down on it.

And, behold, the Lord stood beside him, and said, "I am the Lord, the God of Abraham, thy father, and the God of Isaac. The land on which thou liest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed. And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and thou shalt spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south. And in thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed. And, behold, I am with thee, and will keep thee wherever thou goest, and will bring thee back into

And he dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven; and behold the angels of God going up and coming down on it.

this land; for I will not leave thee, until I have done that which I have spoken to thee."

And Jacob awaked out of his sleep and he said, "Surely the Lord is in this place; and I knew it not." And he was afraid, and said, "How full of awe is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

And Jacob rose up early in the morning, and took the stone that he had put under his head, and set it up for a pillar, and poured oil on the top of it. And he called the name of that place Beth-el.[1]

And Jacob vowed a vow, saying, "If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat, and raiment to put on, so that I come back to my father's house in peace, then shall the Lord be my God, and this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, shall be God's house; and of all that Thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth to Thee." —Genesis, Chapter 28.

(1) Beth-el means The House of God.

HOW JACOB SERVED FOR RACHEL

THEN Jacob went on his journey, and came to the land of the children of the east. And he looked, and, behold, a well in the field, and three flocks of sheep lying there by it; for out of that well they watered the flocks. And the stone upon the well's mouth was great. And there were all the flocks gathered; and they rolled the stone from the well's mouth, and watered the sheep, and put the stone back upon the well's mouth in its place.

And Jacob said to them, "My brothers, whence are ye?"

And they said, "Of Haran are we."

And he said to them, "Know ye Laban the son of Nahor?"

And they said, "We know him."

And he said to them, "It is well with him?"

And they said, "It is well. And, behold, Rachel his daughter cometh with the sheep."

And he said, "Behold, it is yet high day, neither is it time that the cattle should be gathered together. Water ye the sheep, and go and feed them."

And Jacob told Rachel that he was Rebekah's son.

And they said, "We cannot, until all the flocks are gathered together, and they roll the stone from the well's mouth. Then we water the sheep."

While he was yet speaking with them, Rachel came with her father's sheep; for she tended them. And it came to pass, when Jacob saw Rachel the daughter of Laban his mother's brother, and the sheep of Laban his mother's brother, that Jacob went near, and rolled the stone from the well's mouth, and watered the flock of Laban his mother's brother.

And Jacob kissed Rachel, and wept. And Jacob told Rachel that he was Rebekah's son; and she ran and told her father.

And it came to pass, when Laban heard of Jacob his sisters's son, that he ran to meet him, and embraced him, and kissed him, and brought him to his house.

And he told Laban all these things. And Laban said to him, "Surely thou art my bone and my flesh." And he stayed with him a month.

And Laban said unto Jacob, "Because thou art my brother, shouldest thou therefore serve for nought? Tell me, what shall thy wages be?"

Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. And Leah's eyes were weak; but Rachel was of beautiful form and fair to look upon. And

Jacob loved Rachel; and he said, "I will serve thee seven years for Rachel thy younger daughter."

And Laban said, "It is better that I give her to thee, than that I should give her to another man. Stay with me."

And Jacob served seven years for Rachel; and they seemed to him but a few days, for the love he had for her.

And Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife, for my days are fulfilled."

And Laban gathered together all the men of the place, and made a feast. And it came to pass in the evening, that he took Leah his daughter, and brought her to him. And it came to pass in the morning that, behold, it was Leah; and he said to Laban, "What is this thou hast done to me? Did not I serve with thee for Rachel? Why then hast thou deceived me?"

And Laban said, "It is not so done in our place, to give the younger before the first-born. We will give thee the other also for the service which thou shalt give me yet seven more years."

And Jacob did so; and he gave him Rachel his daughter to wife. And he loved Rachel more than Leah, and served with him yet seven more years.

And Jacob increased exceedingly, and had large

And Jacob served seven years for Rachel; and they seemed to him but a few days, for the love he had for her.

flocks, and maid-servants and men-servants, and camels and asses.

And he heard the words of Laban's sons, saying, "Jacob hath taken away all that was our father's; and of that which was our father's hath he gotten all this wealth." And Jacob beheld the face of Laban, and, behold, it was not toward him as before.

And the Lord said to Jacob, "Return to the land of thy fathers, and to thy kindred; and I will be with thee."

And Jacob sent and called Rachel and Leah to the field to his flock, and said to them, "I see your father's face, that it is not toward me as before; but the God of my father hath been with me. And ye know that with all my power I have served your father.

And the angel of God said to me in a dream, "Jacob'; and I said, 'Here am I.' And he said, "I am the God of Beth-el, where thou didst anoint a pillar, where thou didst vow a vow unto Me. Now arise, get thee out from this land, and return to the land where thou wast born.' "

And Rachel and Leah answered and said to him, "Is there yet any inheritance for us in our father's house? Are we not regarded by him as strangers? For he hath sold us, and hath also quite devoured our price. For all the riches which God hath taken away from our father, that is ours and

our children's. Now then, whatever God hath said unto thee, do."

Then Jacob rose up, and set his sons and his wives upon the camels; and he carried away all his cattle, and all his riches which he had gathered, to go to Isaac his father to the land of Canaan.

Now Laban was gone to shear his sheep. And Jacob told him not that he was going. So he fled with all that he had; and he rose up, and passed over the River,[1] and set his face toward the mountain of Gilead. And it was told Laban on the third day that Jacob was fled. And he took his men with him, and pursued after him seven days' journey; and he overtook him in the mountain of Gilead. And God came to Laban in a dream of the night, and said to him, "Take heed that thou speak not to Jacob either good or bad."

And Laban came up with Jacob. Now Jacob had pitched his tent in the mountain; and Laban with his men pitched in the mountain of Gilead. And Laban said to Jacob, "What hast thou done, that thou hast carried away my daughters as though captives of the sword? Wherefore didst thou flee secretly; and didst not tell me, that I might have sent thee away with gladness and with songs; and didst not let me kiss my sons and my daughters? Now hast thou done foolishly. It is in the power of

(1) The River is the Euphrates.

my hand to do you hurt; but the God of your father spoke to me in the night, saying, 'Take heed that thou speak not to Jacob either good or bad.' "

And Jacob answered and said to Laban, "Because I was afraid lest thou shouldest take thy daughters from me by force. These twenty years have I been with thee; and the rams of thy flocks have I not eaten. That which was torn of beasts I brought not to thee; I bore the loss of it; of my hand didst thou require it, whether stolen by day or stolen by night. Thus I was: in the day the drought consumed me, and the frost by night; and my sleep fled from mine eyes. These twenty years have I been in thy house; I served thee fourteen years for thy two daughters, and six years for thy flock; and thou hast changed my wages ten times. Except the God of my father, the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, had been on my side, surely now hadst thou sent me away empty. God hath seen my distress and the labor of my hands, and gave judgment in the night."

And Laban answered and said to Jacob, "The daughters are my daughters, and the children are my children, and the flocks are my flocks, and all that thou seest is mine; and what can I do this day for these my daughters, or for their children? And now come, let us make a covenant, I and thou; and let it be for a witness between me and thee."

And Jacob took a stone and set it up for a pillar. And Jacob said to his men, "Gather stones." And they took stones, and made a heap. And they ate there by the heap.

And Laban said, "This heap is witness between me and thee this day." Therefore was the name of it called Mizpah,[1] for he said, "The Lord watch between me and thee, when we are absent one from the other. If thou shalt make my daughters to grieve, and if thou shalt take wives beside my daughters, see, God is witness between me and thee." And Laban said to Jacob, "Behold this heap, and behold the pillar, which I have set up between me and thee. This heap be witness, and the pillar be witness, that I will not pass over this heap to thee, and that thou shalt not pass over this heap and this pillar unto me, for harm. The God of Abraham, and the God of Nahor, the God of their father, judge between us."

And Jacob swore by the God of his father Isaac. And Jacob offered a sacrifice in the mountain, and called his men to eat bread; and they did eat bread, and stayed all night in the mountain.

And early in the morning Laban rose up, and kissed his sons and his daughters, and blessed them. And Laban returned to his place. And Jacob went on his way. —Genesis, Chapters 29-32.

(1) Mizpah means Watch-post.

THE CHAMPION OF GOD

AND Jacob sent messengers before him to Esau his brother to the land of Seir, the field of Edom. And he commanded them, saying, "Thus shall ye say to my lord Esau, 'Thus saith thy servant Jacob: I have dwelt with Laban, and stayed there until now. And I have oxen, and asses, and flocks, and men-servants and maid-servants; and I have sent to tell my lord, that I may find favor in thy sight.' "

And the messengers returned to Jacob, saying, "We came to thy brother Esau, and he cometh to meet thee, and four hundred men with him."

Then Jacob was greatly afraid and was distressed. And he divided the people that were with him, and the flocks, and the herds, and the camels, into two camps. And he said, "If Esau come to the one camp, and smite it, then the camp which is left shall escape."

And Jacob said: "O God of my father Abraham, and God of my father Isaac, O Lord, who saidst to me, 'Return to thy country, and to thy kindred, and

"I am not worthy of all the mercies, and of all the truth, which Thou hast shown unto Thy servant."

I will do thee good'; I am not worthy of all the mercies, and of all the truth, which Thou hast shown to thy servant; for with my staff I passed over this Jordan; and now I am become two camps. Deliver me, I pray thee, from the hand of my brother, from the hand of Esau; for I fear that he will come and smite me, the mother with the children. And Thou saidst, 'I will surely do thee good, and make thy seed as the sand of the sea, which cannot be numbered.' "

And he lodged there that night; and took of that which he had with him a present for his brother Esau: two hundred she-goats and twenty he-goats, two hundred ewes and twenty rams, thirty milch camels and their colts, forty cows and ten bulls, twenty she-asses and ten foals. And he gave them into the hand of his servants, every drove by itself; and said to his servants, "Pass over before me, and put a space between drove and drove." And he commanded the first, saying, "When Esau my brother meeteth thee, and asketh thee, saying, 'Whose art thou? and whither goest thou? and whose are these before thee?' then thou shalt say, 'They are thy servant Jacob's; it is a present sent to my lord, even to Esau; and, behold, he also is behind us.' " And he commanded also the second, and the third, and all that followed the droves, saying, "In this manner shall ye speak to Esau, when ye find him; and ye

shall say, 'Moreover, behold, thy servant Jacob is behind us.' " For he said, "I will make peace with him with the present that goeth before me, and afterward I will see his face; perhaps I shall find favor in his sight." So the present passed over before him; and he himself stayed that night in the camp.

And he rose up that night, and took his two wives, and his two hand-maids, and his eleven children, and passed over the ford of the Jabbok. And he took them, and sent them over the stream, and sent over that which he had.

And Jacob was left alone. And there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day.

And when he saw that he prevailed not against him, he touched the hollow of his thigh; and the hollow of Jacob's thigh was strained, as he wrestled with him.

And he said, "Let me go, for the day breaketh."

And he said, "I will not let thee go, except thou bless me."

And he said to him, "What is thy name?"

And he said, "Jacob."

And he said, "Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel;[1] for thou hast striven with God and with men, and hast prevailed."

(1) Israel means He Who Striveth with God.

And Jacob asked him, and said, "Tell me, I pray thee, thy name."

And he said, "Why is it that thou dost ask my name?" And he blessed him there.

And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel;[1] "For I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved."

And the sun rose upon him as he passed over Peniel, and he limped upon his thigh.

And Jacob lifted up his eyes, and looked, and, behold, Esau came, and with him four hundred men. And he divided the children unto Leah, and unto Rachel, and unto the two handmaids. And he put the handmaids and their children first, and Leah and her children after, and Rachel and Joseph last.

And he himself passed over before them, and bowed himself to the ground seven times, until he came near to his brother. And Esau ran to meet him, and embraced him, and kissed him; and they wept.

And he lifted up his eyes, and saw the women and the children, and said, "Who are these with thee?"

And he said, "The children whom God hath graciously given thy servant."

(1) Peniel means The Face of God.

Then the handmaids came near, they and their children, and they bowed down. And Leah also and her children came near, and bowed down; and after came Joseph near and Rachel, and they bowed down.

And he said, "What meanest thou by all this camp which I met?"

And he said, "To find favor in the sight of my lord."

And Esau said, "I have enough; my brother, let that which thou hast be thine."

And Jacob said, "Nay, I pray thee, if now I have found favor in thy sight, then receive my present at my hands. Take, I pray thee, my gift that is brought to thee; because God hath dealt graciously with me, and because I have enough." And he urged him, and he took it.

And he said, "Let us take our journey, and let us go, and I will go before thee."

And he said to him, "My lord knoweth that the children are tender, and that the flocks and herds giving suck are a care to me; and if they overdrive them one day, all the flocks will die. Let my lord, I pray thee, pass over before his servant; and I will journey on gently, according to the pace of the cattle that are before me and according to the pace of the children, until I come to my lord to Seir."

And Esau said, "Let me now leave with thee some of the folk that are with me."

And he said, "What needeth it? Only let me find favor in the sight of my lord."

So Esau returned that day on his way to Seir.

And Jacob came to Isaac his father to Hebron, where Abraham and Isaac sojourned.

And Isaac died, old and full of days; and Esau and Jacob his sons buried him.

—Genesis, Chapters 32-33-35.

JOSEPH THE DREAMER

AND Jacob dwelt in the land of his father, in the land of Canaan.

Joseph, being seventeen years old, was feeding the flock with his brothers, being still a lad; and Joseph brought evil report of them to their father.

Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he made him a coat of many colors. And when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him.

And Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told it to his brothers; and they hated him yet the more. And he said to them, "Hear, I pray you, this dream which I have dreamed. For, behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and my sheaf arose and stood upright; and, behold, your sheaves came round about, and bowed down to my sheaf."

And his brothers said to him, "Shalt thou indeed rule over us?" And they hated him the more for his dreams, and for his words.

And he dreamed yet another dream, and told it to his brothers, and said, "Behold, I have dreamed another dream; and, behold, the sun and the moon and eleven stars bowed down to me." And he told it to his father and to his brothers.

And his father rebuked him, and said to him, "What is this dream that thou hast dreamed? Shall I and thy mother and thy brothers indeed come to bow down to thee to the earth?"

And his brothers envied him; but his father kept the saying in mind.

And his brothers went to feed their father's flock in Shechem. And Israel said to Joseph, "Do not thy brothers feed the flock in Shechem? Come, and I will send thee to them."

And he said to him, "Here am I."

And he said to him, "Go now, see whether it is well with thy brothers, and well with the flock; and bring me back word."

So he sent him out of the vale of Hebron, and he came to Shechem. And a certain man found him, and, behold, he was wandering in the field. And the man asked him, saying, "What art thou looking for?"

And he said, "I am looking for my brothers. Tell me, I pray thee, where they are feeding the flock."

And the man said, "They have gone from this

place; for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.' "

And Joseph went after his brothers, and found them in Dothan.

And they saw him afar off, and before he came near to them, they plotted against him to slay him. And they said to one another, "Behold, this dreamer cometh. Come now therefore, and let us slay him, and cast him into one of the pits, and we will say, 'An evil beast hath devoured him;' and we shall see what will become of his dreams."

And Reuben heard it, and saved him out of their hand, and said, "Let us not take his life." And Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood; cast him into this pit that is in the wilderness, but lay no hand upon him"—that he might save him out of their hand, to bring him again to his father.

And it came to pass, when Joseph came to his brothers, that they stripped Joseph of his coat, the coat of many colors that was on him. And they took him, and cast him into the pit; and the pit was empty, there was no water in it.

And they sat down to eat bread. And they lifted up their eyes and looked, and, behold, a caravan of Ishmaelites came from Gilead, with their camels bearing spices and balm, carrying it down to Egypt.

And Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is it if we slay our brother and hide his blood? Come,

And they drew and lifted up Joseph out of the pit,
and sold Joseph to the Ishmaelites.

and let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and let not our hand be upon him; for he is our brother."

And his brothers hearkened to him. And they drew and lifted up Joseph out of the pit, and sold Joseph to the Ishmaelites for twenty shekels of silver. And they brought Joseph to Egypt.

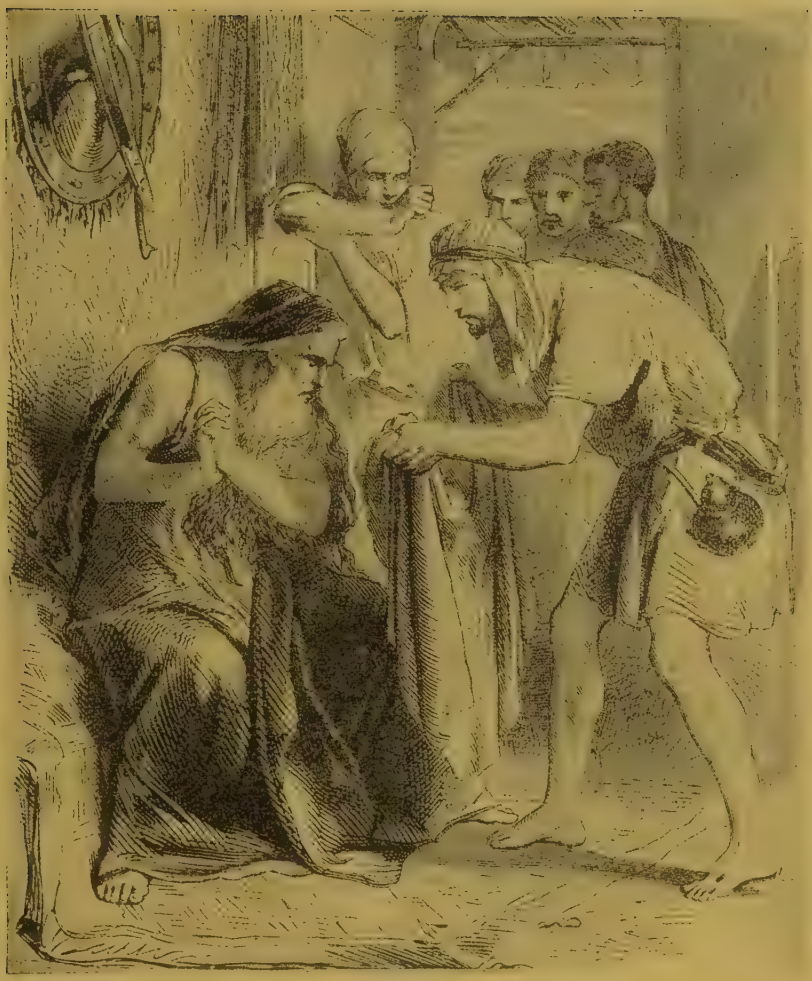
And Reuben returned to the pit; and, behold, Joseph was not in the pit; and he rent his clothes. And he returned to his brothers and said, "The child is not; and as for me, where shall I go?"

And they took Joseph's coat, and killed a he-goat, and dipped the coat in the blood. And they sent the coat of many colors, and they brought it to their father, and said, "This have we found. Know now whether it is thy son's coat or not."

And he knew it, and said, "It is my son's coat. An evil beast hath devoured him. Joseph is without doubt torn to pieces."

And Jacob rent his garments, and put on sackcloth, and mourned for his son many days. And all his sons and all his daughters rose up to comfort him; but he refused to be comforted; and he said, "Nay, but I will go down to the grave to my son mourning." And his father wept for him.

—Genesis, Chapter 37.



"It is my son's coat. An evil beast hath devoured him."

JOSEPH IN PRISON

AND Joseph was brought down to Egypt; and Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh's, the captain of the guard, an Egyptian, bought him of the hand of the Ishmaelites, that had brought him down there.

And the Lord was with Joseph, and he was a prosperous man; and he was in the house of his master the Egyptian. And his master saw that the Lord was with him, and that the Lord made all that he did to prosper in his hand. And Joseph found favor in his sight, and he served him. And he appointed him overseer over his house, and all that he had he put into his hand.

And it came to pass from the time that he appointed him overseer in his house, and over all that he had, that the Lord blessed the Egyptian's house, for Joseph's sake; and the blessing of the Lord was upon all that he had, in the house and in the field. And he left all that he had in Joseph's hand.

And it came to pass that his master's wife

tempted Joseph to do a great wrong. But he refused, and said to his master's wife, "Behold, my master, having me, knoweth not what is in the house, and he hath put all that he hath into my hand; he is not greater in this house than I; neither hath he kept back anything from me. How then can I do this great wrong, and sin against God?" And it came to pass, as she spoke to Joseph day by day, that he hearkened not to her.

But she falsely accused Joseph. And it came to pass, when his master heard the words of his wife, which she spoke to him, saying, "After this manner did thy servant," that his anger was kindled. And Joseph's master took him, and put him into the prison, the place where the king's prisoners were bound; and he was there in prison.

But the Lord was with Joseph, and showed kindness to him, and gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison. And the keeper of the prison committed to Joseph's hand all the prisoners that were in prison; and whatever they did there, he was the doer of it. The keeper of the prison looked not to anything that was under his hand, because the Lord was with him; and that which he did, the Lord made it to prosper.

And it came to pass after these things, that the butler of the king of Egypt and his baker offended their lord the king of Egypt. And Pharaoh was

angry with his two officers, against the chief of the butlers, and against the chief of the bakers. And he put them into the prison, the place where Joseph was bound. And the captain of the guard charged Joseph to be with them; and they continued a season in prison.

And they dreamed a dream both of them, each man his dream, in one night, the butler and the baker of the king of Egypt, who were bound in the prison.

And Joseph came in to them in the morning, and saw them, and, behold, they were sad. And he asked Pharaoh's officers that were with him in his master's house, saying, "Why look ye so sad today?"

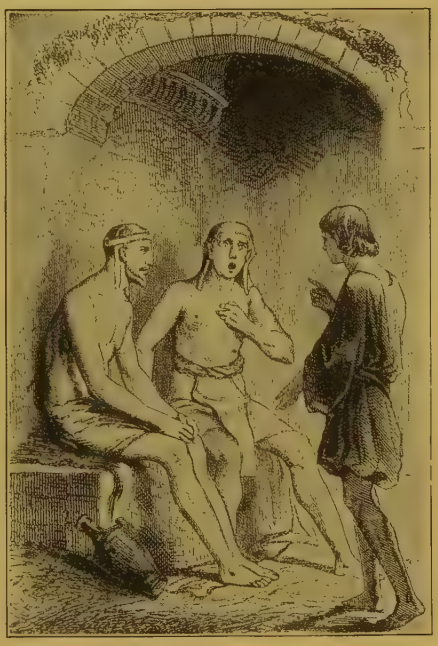
And they said to him, "We have dreamed a dream, and there is none that can interpret it."

And Joseph said to them, "Do not interpretations come from God? Tell it me, I pray you."

And the chief butler told his dream to Joseph, and said to him, "In my dream, behold, a vine was before me; and on the vine were three branches; and as it was budding, its blossoms shot forth, and the clusters brought forth ripe grapes. And Pharaoh's cup was in my hand; and I took the grapes, and pressed them into Pharaoh's cup, and I gave the cup into Pharaoh's hand."

And Joseph said to him, "This is the interpretation of it: the three branches are three days; within

yet three days shall Pharaoh lift up thy head, and put thee back into thine office; and thou shalt give Pharaoh's cup into his hand, after the manner when thou wast his butler. But remember me when it shall be well with thee, and show kindness, I pray thee, to me, and make mention of me to Pharaoh, and bring me out of this house. For indeed I was stolen away out of the land of the Hebrews; and here also have I done nothing that they should put me into the dungeon."



When the chief baker saw that the interpretation was good, he said to Joseph, "I also saw in my dream, and, behold, three baskets of white bread were on my head; and in the uppermost basket there was of all manner of baked food for Pharaoh; and the birds did eat them out of the basket upon my head."

And Joseph answered and said, "This is the interpretation of it: the three baskets are three days; within yet three days shall Pharaoh lift up thy head

off thee, and shall hang thee on a tree; and the birds shall eat thy flesh from off thee."

And it came to pass the third day, which was Pharaoh's birthday, that he made a feast to all his servants. And he lifted up the head of the chief butler and the head of the chief baker among his servants. And he put the chief butler back into his office; and he gave the cup into Pharaoh's hand. But he hanged the chief baker, as Joseph had interpreted to them. Yet did not the chief butler remember Joseph, but forgot him.

Genesis, Chapters 39-40.

JOSEPH RULER OVER ALL THE LAND OF EGYPT

AND it came to pass at the end of two full years, that Pharaoh dreamed; and, behold, he stood by the river. And, behold, there came up out of the river seven cows, well-favored and fat; and they fed in the grass. And, behold, seven other cows came up after them out of the river, ill-favored and lean; and stood by the other cows upon the brink of the river. And the ill-favored and lean cows did eat up the seven well-favored and fat cows. So Pharaoh awoke.

And he slept and dreamed a second time: and, behold, seven ears of corn came up on one stalk, full and good. And, behold, seven ears, thin and withered with the east wind, sprung up after them. And the thin ears swallowed up the seven good and full ears. And Pharaoh awoke, and, behold, it was a dream.

And it came to pass in the morning that his spirit was troubled; and he sent and called for all the magicians of Egypt, and all the wise men. And

Pharaoh told them his dream; but there was none that could interpret them to Pharaoh.

Then spoke the chief butler to Pharaoh, saying, "I make mention of my faults this day: Pharaoh was wroth with his servants, and put me in the prison of the house of the captain of the guard, me and the chief baker. And we dreamed a dream in one night, I and he. And there was with us there a young man, a Hebrew, servant to the captain of the guard; and we told him, and he interpreted to us our dreams; to each man according to his dream he did interpret. And it came to pass, as he interpreted to us, so it was: I was put back into my office, and he was hanged."

Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph, and they brought him hastily out of the dungeon. And he shaved himself, and changed his garment, and came in to Pharaoh.

And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I have dreamed a dream, and there is none that can interpret it. And I have heard say of thee, that when thou hearest a dream thou canst interpret it."

And Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, "It is not in me. God will give Pharaoh an answer of peace."

And Pharaoh spoke to Joseph: "In my dream, behold, I stood upon the brink of a river. And. behold, there came up out of the river seven cows,

fat and well-favored; and they fed in the grass. And, behold, seven other cows came up after them, poor and very ill-favored and lean, such as I never saw in all the land of Egypt for badness. And the lean and ill-favored cows did eat up the first seven fat cows. And when they had eaten them up, it could not be known that they had eaten them; but they were still ill-favored as at the beginning. So I awoke.

"And I saw in my dream, and, behold, seven ears came up on one stalk, full and good. And, behold, seven ears, thin, and withered with the east wind, sprung up after them. And the thin ears swallowed up the seven good ears. And I told it to the magicians; but there was none that could declare it to me."

And Joseph said to Pharaoh: "The dream of Pharaoh is one. What God is about to do He hath declared to Pharaoh. The seven good cows are seven years; and the seven good ears are seven years: the dream is one. And the seven lean and ill-favored cows that came up after them are seven years, and also the seven empty ears withered with the east wind; they shall be seven years of famine. That is the thing which I spoke to Pharaoh: what God is about to do He hath shown to Pharaoh. Behold, there come seven years of great plenty throughout all the land of Egypt. And there shall arise after them seven years of famine; and all the

"Behold, there come seven years of great plenty throughout all the land of Egypt. And there shall arise after them seven years of famine."

plenty shall be forgotten in the land of Egypt; and the famine shall consume the land; and the plenty shall not be known in the land by reason of that famine which followeth; for it shall be very grievous. And for that the dream was doubled unto Pharaoh twice, it is because the thing is established by God, and God will shortly bring it to pass.

"Now therefore let Pharaoh look for a wise man, and set him over the land of Egypt. Let Pharaoh do this, and let him appoint overseers over the land, and take up the fifth part of the land of Egypt in the seven years of plenty. And let them gather all the food of these good years that come, and lay up corn under the hand of Pharaoh for food in the cities, and let them keep it. And the food shall be for a store to the land against the seven years of famine, which shall be in the land of Egypt; that the land perish not through the famine."

And the thing was good in the eyes of Pharaoh, and in the eyes of all his servants.

And Pharaoh said to his servants, "Can we find such a one as this, a man in whom the spirit of God is?" And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Seeing that God hath shown thee all this, there is none so wise as thou. Thou shalt be over my house, and according to thy word shall all my people be ruled; only in the throne will I be greater than thou." And Pharaoh

And he made him to ride in the second chariot which he had; and they cried before him, "Bow the knee."

said to Joseph, "See, I have set thee over all the land of Egypt."

And Pharaoh took off his signet ring from his hand, and put it upon Joseph's hand, and put fine garments upon him, and put a gold chain about his neck. And he made him to ride in the second chariot which he had; and they cried before him, "Bow the knee;" and he set him over all the land of Egypt.

And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I am Pharaoh, and without thee shall no man lift up his hand or his foot in all the land of Egypt." And Joseph went out over the land of Egypt. And Joseph was thirty years old when he stood before Pharaoh king of Egypt. And Joseph went out from the presence of Pharaoh, and went through all the land of Egypt.

And in the seven years of plenty the earth brought forth in heaps. And he gathered up all the food of the seven years which were in the land of Egypt, and laid up the food in the cities; the food of the field, which was round about every city, laid he up in the same. And Joseph laid up corn as the sand of the sea.

And the seven years of plenty, that was in the land of Egypt, came to an end. And the seven years of famine began to come, according as Joseph had said; and there was famine in all lands; but in all the land of Egypt there was bread. And when all the land of Egypt was hungry, the people cried to

Pharaoh for bread; and Pharaoh said to all the Egyptians, "Go to Joseph; what he saith to you, do." And the famine was over all the face of the earth; and Joseph opened all the storehouses, and sold to the Egyptians; and the famine was sore in the land of Egypt. And all the countries came into Egypt to Joseph to buy corn; because the famine was sore in all the earth.

—Genesis, Chapter 41.

HOW JOSEPH'S BROTHERS CAME TO BOW DOWN TO HIM

NOW Jacob saw that there was corn in Egypt, and Jacob said to his sons, "Behold, I have heard that there is corn in Egypt. Get you down, and buy for us from there; that we may live, and not die."

And Joseph's ten brothers went down to buy corn from Egypt. But Benjamin, Joseph's brother, Jacob sent not with his brothers; for he said, "For fear that perhaps harm come to him."

And the sons of Israel came to buy among those that came; for the famine was in the land of Canaan. And Joseph was the governor over the land; he it was that sold to all the people of the land. And Joseph's brothers came, and bowed down to him with their faces to the earth.

And Joseph saw his brothers, and he knew them, but made himself strange to them, and spoke roughly with them; and he said to them, "Whence come ye?"

And they said, "From the land of Canaan to buy food."

And Joseph knew his brothers, but they knew not him. And Joseph remembered the dreams which he dreamed of them, and said to them, "Ye are spies; to see the nakedness of the land ye are come."

And they said to him, "Nay, my lord, but to buy food are thy servants come. We are all one man's sons; we are upright men, thy servants are no spies."

And he said to them, "Nay, but to see the nakedness of the land ye are come."

And they said, "We thy servants are twelve brothers, the sons of one man in the land of Canaan; and, behold, the youngest is this day with our father, and one is not."

And Joseph said to them, "That is it that I spoke to you, saying, 'Ye are spies.' In this way ye shall be proved: as Pharaoh liveth, ye shall not go forth from here, unless your youngest brother come here. Send one of you, and let him fetch your brother, and ye shall be bound, that your words may be proved, whether there be truth in you. Or else, as Pharaoh liveth, surely ye are spies."

And he put them all together into prison three days.

And Joseph said to them the third day, "This

do and live; for I fear God. If ye be upright men, let one of your brothers be bound in prison. But go ye, carry corn for the famine of your houses; and bring your youngest brother to me. So shall your words be proved, and ye shall not die."

And they did so. And they said one to another, "We are guilty concerning our brother, because we saw the distress of his soul, when he begged us, and we would not hear; therefore is this distress come upon us."

And Reuben answered them, saying, "Spoke I not to you, saying, 'Do not sin against the child,' and ye would not hear? Therefore, also, behold, his blood is required."

And they knew not that Joseph understood them; for the interpreter was between them. And he turned himself about from them, and wept; and he returned to them, and spoke to them, and took Simeon from among them, and bound him before their eyes.

Then Joseph commanded to fill their vessels with corn, and to put back every man's money into his sack, and to give them food for the way; and thus was it done to them. And they loaded their asses with their corn, and went away.

And as one of them opened his sack to feed his

And as one of them opened his sack to feed his ass in the lodging-place, he saw his money.

ass in the lodging-place, he saw his money; and, behold, it was in the mouth of his sack. And he said to his brothers, "My money is given back to me. Behold, it is in my sack."

And their heart failed them, and they turned trembling one to another, saying, "What is this that God hath done to us?"

And they came to Jacob their father to the land of Canaan, and told him all that had happened to them, saying:

"The man, the lord of the land, spoke roughly to us, and took us for spies of the country. And we said to him, 'We are upright men; we are no spies. We are twelve brothers, sons of our father; one is not, and the youngest is this day with our father in the land of Canaan.' And the man, the lord of the land, said to us, 'In this way shall I know that ye are upright men: leave one of your brothers with me, and take corn for the famine of your houses, and go your way. And bring your youngest brother to me; then shall I know that ye are no spies, but that ye are upright men; so will I deliver you your brother, and ye shall buy corn in the land.' "

And it came to pass as they emptied their sacks, that, behold, every man's bundle of money was in his sack. And when they and their father saw their bundles of money, they were afraid.

And Jacob their father said to them, "Me have ye bereaved of my children: Joseph is not, and Simeon is not, and ye will take Benjamin away. Upon me are all these things come."

And Reuben spoke to his father, saying, "Thou shalt slay my two sons, if I bring him not to thee. Give him into my hand, and I will bring him back to thee."

And he said, "My son shall not go down with you; for his brother is dead, and he only is left. If harm happen to him by the way in which ye go, then will ye bring down my gray hairs with sorrow to the grave." —"Genesis, Chapter 42.

JOSEPH MAKES HIMSELF KNOWN TO HIS BROTHERS

AND the famine was sore in the land. And it came to pass, when they had eaten up the corn which they had brought out of Egypt, that their father said to them, "Go again, buy us a little food."

And Judah spoke to him, saying, "The man did earnestly warn us, saying, 'Ye shall not see my face, unless your brother be with you.' If thou wilt send our brother with us, we will go down and buy thee food; but if thou wilt not send him, we will not go down, for the man said to us: 'Ye shall not see my face, except your brother be with you.' "

And Israel said, "Why dealt ye so ill with me, as to tell the man whether ye had yet a brother?"

And they said, "The man asked strictly concerning ourselves, and concerning our kindred, saying, 'Is your father yet alive? Have ye another brother?' And we told him. Could we in any wise know that he would say, 'Bring your brother down?"

And Judah said to Israel his father, "Send the boy with me, and we will arise and go, that we may live, and not die, both we, and thou, and also our little ones. I will be surety for him; of my hand shalt thou require him. If I bring him not to thee, and set him before thee, then let me bear the blame for ever. For if we had not waited, surely we had now returned a second time.

And their father Israel said to them, "If it be so now, do this: take of the choice fruits of the land in your vessels, and carry down the man a present, a little balm, and a little honey, spices, nuts and almonds. And take double money in your hand; and the money that was returned in the mouth of your sacks carry back in your hand; perhaps it was an oversight. Take also your brother, and arise, go again to the man. And God Almighty give you mercy before the man, that he may release to you your other brother, and Benjamin. And as for me, if I be bereaved of my children, I am bereaved."

And the men took that present, and they took double money in their hand, and Benjamin; and rose up, and went down to Egypt, and stood before Joseph.

And when Joseph saw Benjamin with them, he

said to the steward of his house, "Bring these men into the house, and kill the beasts, and prepare the meat; for the men shall dine with me at noon."

And the man did as Joseph bade; and the man brought the men into Joseph's house. And the men were afraid, because they were brought into Joseph's house; and they said, "Because of the money that was returned in our sacks at the first time are we brought in; that he may take us for bondmen, and our asses."

And they came near to the steward of Joseph's house, and they spoke to him at the door of the house, and said, "O my lord, we came down at the first time to buy food. And it came to pass, when we came to the lodging-place, that we opened our sacks, and, behold, every man's money was in the mouth of his sack, our money in full weight; and we have brought it back in our hand. And other money have we brought down in our hand to buy food. We know not who put our money in our sacks."

And he said, "Peace be to you, fear not. Your God, and the God of your father, hath given you treasure in your sacks. I had your money." And he brought Simeon out to them.

And the man brought the men into Joseph's house, and gave them water, and they washed their

feet; and he gave food to their asses. And they made ready the present for Joseph; for they heard that they were to eat bread there.

And when Joseph came home, they brought him the present, and bowed down to him to the earth. And he asked them of their welfare, and said, "Is your father well, the old man of whom ye spoke? Is he yet alive?"

And they said, "Thy servant our father is well. He is yet alive." And they bowed the head and bent the knee before him.

And he lifted up his eyes, and saw Benjamin his brother, his mother's son, and said, "Is this your youngest brother of whom ye spoke to me?" And he said, "God be gracious to thee, my son."

And Joseph made haste; for his heart longed for his brother; and he sought where to weep; and he entered into his chamber, and wept there. And he washed his face, and came out; and he refrained himself, and said, "Set on bread."

And they set on for him by himself, and for them by themselves, and for the Egyptians, that did eat with him, by themselves; because the Egyptians might not eat bread with the Hebrews; for that was forbidden to the Egyptians.

And they sat before him, the first-born according to his birthright, and the youngest according to his youth; and the men wondered one with

another. And portions were taken to them from before him; but Benjamin's portion was five times as much as any of theirs. And they drank, and were merry with them.

And he commanded the steward of his house, saying, "Fill the men's sacks with food, as much as they can carry, and put every man's money in his sack's mouth. And put my goblet, the silver goblet, in the sack's mouth of the youngest, and his corn money." And he did according to the word that Joseph had spoken.

As soon as the morning was light, the men were sent away, they and their asses. And when they were gone out of the city, and were not yet far off, Joseph said to his steward, "Up, follow after the men; and when thou dost overtake them, say to them, "Why have ye returned evil for good? Is not this it in which my lord drinketh? Ye have done evil in so doing.' "

And he overtook them, and he spoke to them these words.

And they said to him, "Why speaketh my lord such words as these? Far be it from thy servants that they should do such a thing. Behold, the money, which we found in our sacks' mouths we brought back to thee out of the land of Canaan. How then should we steal out of thy lord's house silver or gold? With whomever of thy servants it be found,

And the goblet was found in Benjamin's sack.

let him die, and we also will be my lord's bondmen."

And he said, "Now also let it be according to your words. He with whom it is found shall be my bondman; and ye shall be blameless."

Then they hastened, and took down every man his sack to the ground, and opened every man his sack. And he searched, beginning at the eldest, and leaving off the youngest; and the goblet was found in Benjamin's sack.

Then they rent their clothes, and loaded every man his ass, and returned to the city. And Judah and his brothers came to Joseph's house, and he was yet there; and they fell before him on the ground.

And Joseph said to them, "What deed is this that ye have done? Know ye not that such a man as I will indeed find out?"

And Judah said, "What shall we say to my lord? What shall we speak? Or how shall we clear ourselves? God hath found out the wickedness of thy servants. Behold, we are my lord's bondmen, both we, and he also in whose hand the cup is found."

And he said, "Far be it from me that I should do so. The man in whose hand the goblet is found he shall be my bondman; but as for you, get you up in peace to your father."

Then Judah came near to him, and said, "O

lord, let thy servant, I pray thee, speak a word in my lord's ears, and let not thine anger burn against thy servant; for thou art even as Pharaoh.

"My lord asked his servants, saying, 'Have ye a father, or a brother?' And we said to my lord, "We have a father, an old man, and a child of his old age, a little one; and his brother is dead, and he alone is left of his mother, and his father loveth him.'

"And thou saidst to thy servants, 'Bring him down to me, that I may set mine eyes upon him. And we said to my lord, 'The boy cannot leave his father; for if he should leave his father, his father would die.' And thou saidst to thy servants, 'Unless your youngest brother come down with you, ye shall see my face no more.' And it came to pass when we came up to thy servant my father, we told him the words of my lord. And our father said, 'Go again, and buy us a little food.' And we said, 'We cannot go down. If our youngest brother be with us, then will we go down; for we may not see the man's face, except our youngest brother be with us.'

"And thy servant my father said to us, 'Ye know that my wife bore me two sons; and the one went out from me, and I said, "Surely, he is torn in pieces;" and I have not seen him since. And if ye take this one also from me, and harm should happen

to him ye will bring down my gray hairs with sorrow to the grave.'

"Now therefore when I come to thy servant my father, and the boy is not with us; seeing that his soul is bound up with the boy's soul; it will come to pass, when he seeth that the boy is not with us, that he will die; and thy servants will bring down the gray hairs of thy servant our father with sorrow to the grave. For thy servant became surety for the boy to my father, saying, 'If I bring him not unto thee, then shall I bear the blame to my father for ever.' Now therefore, let thy servant, I pray thee, stay instead of the boy a bondman to my lord; and let the boy go up with his brothers. For how shall I go up to my father, if the boy be not with me? lest I look upon the evil that shall come on my father."

Then Joseph could not refrain himself before all them that stood by him; and he cried, "Cause every man to go out from me." And there stood no man with him, while Joseph made himself known to his brothers.

And he wept aloud; and the Egyptians heard, and the house of Pharaoh heard.

And Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Doth my father yet live?" And his brothers could not answer him; for they were afraid.

And Joseph said to his brothers, "Come near to me, I pray you." And they came near. And he

And Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph."

said: "I am Joseph your brother, whom ye sold into Egypt. And now be not grieved nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither; for God did send me before you to save life. For these two years hath the famine been in the land; and there are yet five years, in which there shall be neither plowing nor harvest. And God sent me before you to save you alive for a great deliverance. So now it was not you that sent me hither, but God; and He hath made me lord of all the house of Pharaoh, and ruler over all the land of Egypt.

"Hasten ye, and go up to my father, and say to him, 'Thus saith thy son Joseph: "God hath made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. And thou shalt dwell in the land of Goshen, and thou shalt be near to me, thou, and thy children, and thy children's children, and thy flocks, and thy herds, and all that thou hast. And there will I keep thee; for there are yet five years of famine; so that thou come not to poverty, thou, and thy houshold, and all that thou hast."'

"And, behold, your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin, that it is my mouth that speaketh to you. And ye shall tell my father of all my glory in Egypt, and of all that ye have seen; and ye shall hasten and bring down my father hither."

And he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck, and wept; and Benjamin wept upon his neck. And

he kissed all his brothers, and wept with them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

And the report of it was heard in Pharaoh's house, saying, "Joseph's brothers are come.' And it pleased Pharaoh well, and his servants.

And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Say to thy brothers, 'This do ye: load your beasts, and go to the land of Canaan; and take your father and your households, and come to me; and I will give you the good of the land of Egypt, and ye shall eat the fat of the land. Now thou art commanded, this do ye: take your wagons out of the land of Egypt for your little ones, and for your wives, and bring your father, and come. The good things of all the land of Egypt are yours."

And the sons of Israel did so; and Joseph gave them wagons, according to the commandment of Pharaoh, and gave them food for the way. To all of them he gave each man changes of garment, but to Benjamin he gave three hundred shekels of silver, and five changes of garment. And to his father he sent in like manner ten asses loaded with the good things of Egypt, and ten she-asses loaded with corn and bread for his father by the way. So he sent his brothers away, and they went; and he said to them, "See that

ye fall not out by the way."

And they went up out of Egypt, and came into the land of Canaan to Jacob their father. And they told him, saying, "Joseph is yet alive, and he is ruler over all the land of Egypt." And his heart fainted, for he believed them not. And they told him all the words of Joseph, which he had said to them; and when he saw the wagons which Joseph had sent to carry him, the spirit of Jacob their father revived.

And Israel said, "It is enough; Joseph my son is yet alive; I will go and see him before I die."

—Genesis, Chapters 43-45.

JACOB GOES DOWN INTO EGYPT

AND Israel took his journey with all that he had, and came to Beer-sheba, and offered sacrifices to the God of his father Isaac.

And God spoke to Israel in the dreams of the night, and said, "Jacob, Jacob."

And he said, "Here am I."

And He said, "I am God, the God of thy father; fear not to go down into Egypt; for I will there make of thee a great nation. I will go down with thee into Egypt; and I will also surely bring thee up again."

And Jacob rose up from Beer-sheba; and the sons of Israel carried Jacob their father, and their little ones, and their wives, in the wagons which Pharaoh had sent to carry him. And they took their cattle, and their goods, which they had gotten in the land of Canaan, and came into Egypt, Jacob, and all his household with him: his sons, and his sons' sons with him, his daughters and his sons' daughters, and all his household brought he with him into Egypt.

And they took their cattle, and their goods, which they had gotten in the land of Canaan, and came into Egypt, Jacob, and all his household with him.

And he sent Judah before him to Joseph, to show the way before him to Goshen; and they came into the land of Goshen. And Joseph made ready his chariot, and went up to meet Israel, his father, to Goshen; and he presented himself to him, and fell on his neck, and wept on his neck a good while.

And Israel said to Joseph, "Now let me die, since I have seen thy face, that thou art yet alive."

And Joseph said to his brothers, and to his father's house, "I will go up, and tell Pharaoh, and will say to him, 'My brothers, and my father's house, who were in the land of Canaan, are come to me; and the men are shepherds, for they have been keepers of cattle; and they have brought their flocks, and their herds, and all that they have.' And it shall come to pass, when Pharaoh shall call you, and shall say, 'What is your occupation?' that ye shall say, 'Thy servants have been keepers of cattle from our youth even until now, both we, and our fathers'; that ye may dwell in the land of Goshen; for every shepherd is despised by the Egyptians."

Then Joseph went in and told Pharaoh, and said, "My father and my brothers, and their flocks, and their herds, and all that they have, are come out of the land of Canaan; and, behold, they are in the land of Goshen." And from among his brothers he took five men, and presented them to Pharaoh.

And Pharaoh said to his brothers, "What is your occupation?"

And they said to Pharaoh, "Thy servants are shepherds, both we, and our fathers." And they said to Pharaoh, "To dwell in the land are we come; for there is no pasture for thy servants' flocks; for the famine is sore in the land of Canaan. Now therefore, we pray thee, let thy servants dwell in the land of Goshen."

And Pharaoh spoke to Joseph, saying, "Thy father and thy brothers are come to thee; the land of Egypt is before thee; in the best of the land make thy father and thy brothers to dwell; in the land of Goshen let them dwell. And if thou knowest any able men among them, then make them rulers over my cattle."

And Joseph brought in Jacob his father, and set him before Pharaoh. And Jacob blessed Pharaoh.

And Pharaoh said to Jacob, "How many are the years of thy life?"

And Jacob said to Pharaoh, "The years of my life are a hundred and thirty years; few and evil have been the days of the years of my life, and they have not attained unto the days of the years of the life of my fathers." And Jacob blessed Pharaoh, and went out from the presence of Pharaoh.

And Joseph placed his father and his brothers, and gave them a possession in the land of Egypt, in

And Joseph brought in Jacob his father,
and set him before Pharaoh.

the best of the land, as Pharaoh had commanded. And Joseph sustained his father, and his brothers, and all his father's household, with bread, according to the want of their little ones.

—Genesis, Chapters 46-47

THE DEATH OF JACOB

AND Jacob lived in the land of Egypt seventeen years; so the days of Jacob, the years of his life, were a hundred forty and seven years. And the time drew near that Israel must die; and he called his son Joseph, and said to him, "If now I have found favor in thy sight, deal kindly and truly with me; bury me not, I pray thee, in Egypt. But when I sleep with my fathers, thou shalt carry me out of Egypt, and bury me in their burying-place."

And he said, "I will do as thou hast said."

And he said, "Swear to me."

And he swore to him .

And it came to pass after these things, that one said to Joseph, "Behold, thy father is sick." And he took with him his two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim.

And one told Jacob, and said, "Behold, thy son Joseph cometh to thee."

And Israel strengthened himself, and sat upon

the bed. And Jacob said to Joseph, "God Almighty appeared to me in the land of Canaan, and blessed me, and said to me: 'Behold, I will make of thee a company of peoples; and will give this land to thy seed after thee for an everlasting possession.'

"And now thy two sons, who were born to thee in the land of Egypt before I came to thee into Egypt, are mine; Ephraim and Manasseh, even as Reuben and Simeon, shall be mine."

And Israel beheld Joseph's sons, and said, "Who are these?"

And Joseph said to his father, "They are my sons, whom God hath given me here."

And he said, "Bring them, I pray thee, to me, and I will bless them." Now the eyes of Israel were dim for age, so that he could not see. And he brought them near to him; and he kissed them, and embraced them. And Israel said to Joseph, "I had not thought to see thy face; and, lo, God hath let me see thy children also."

And Joseph fell down on his face to the earth. And Joseph took them both, Ephraim in his right hand toward Israel's left hand, and Manasseh in his left hand toward Israel's right hand, and brought them near to him.

And Israel stretched out his right hand, and laid it upon Ephraim's head, who was the younger, and his left hand upon Manasseh's head, guiding his

hands purposely, for Manasseh was the first-born. And he blessed Joseph, and said, "The God before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac did walk, the God who hath been my shepherd all my life long to this day, the Angel who hath saved me from all evil, bless the boys; and let my name be named in them, and the name of my fathers Abraham and Isaac; and let them grow into a great people in the midst of the earth."

And when Joseph saw that his father was laying his right hand upon the head of Ephraim, it displeased him, and he held up his father's hand, to remove it from Ephraim's head to Manasseh's. And Joseph said to his father, "Not so, my father, for this is the first-born; put thy right hand upon his head."

And his father refused, and said, "I know it, my son, I know it; he also shall become a people, and he also shall be great; but his younger brother shall be greater than he." And he blessed them that day, saying, "By thee shall Israel bless, saying, 'God make thee as Ephraim and as Manasseh." And he set Ephraim before Manasseh. And Israel said to Joseph, "Behold, I die; but God will be with you, and bring you back to the land of your fathers. Moreover I have given to thee one portion above thy brothers."

And Jacob called to his sons, and blessed them;

And he blessed them that day, saying, "By thee shall Israel bless, saying, 'God make thee as Ephraim and as Manasseh.' "

every one according to his blessing he blessed them. And he said to them, "Bury me with my fathers in the cave that is in the field of Ephron the Hittite, in the cave that is in the field of Machpelah, in the land of Canaan, which Abraham bought with the field from Ephron the Hittite for a possession of a burying-place. There they buried Abraham and Sarah his wife; there they buried Isaac and Rebekah his wife; and there I buried Leah. The field and the cave that is in it were bought from the children of Heth." And when Jacob made an end of speaking to his sons, he died.

And Joseph fell upon his father's face, and wept upon him, and kissed him. And Joseph commanded his servants the physicians to embalm his father. And the physicians embalmed Israel. And forty days were fulfilled for him; for so are fulfilled the days of embalming. And the Egyptians wept for him threescore and ten days.

And when the days of weeping for him were past, Joseph spoke to the house of Pharaoh, saying, "If now I have found favor in your eyes, speak, I pray you, in the ears of Pharaoh, saying, 'My father made me swear, saying, "Lo, I die; in my grave which I have digged for me in the land of Canaan, there shalt thou bury me." Now therefore let me go up, I pray thee, and bury my father, and I will come back.' "

And Pharaoh said, "Go up, and bury thy father, according as he made thee swear."

And his sons did to him according as he commanded them. For his sons carried him into the land of Canaan, and buried him in the cave of the field of Machpelah, which Abraham bought with the field, for a possession of a burying-place, of Ephron the Hittite.

And Joseph returned into Egypt, he, and his brothers, and all that went up with him to bury his father, after he had buried his father.

And when Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us, and will punish us for all the evil which we did to him."

And they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Thy father did command before he died, saying, 'So shall ye say to Joseph, "Forgive, I pray thee now, the sin of thy brothers, for that they did to thee evil." ' And now, we pray thee, forgive the sin of the servants of thy God of thy father."

And Joseph wept when they spoke to him. And his brothers fell down before his face; and they said, "Behold, we are thy bondmen."

And Joseph said to them, "Fear not; for am I in the place of God? And as for you, ye meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save many people alive.

Now therefore fear ye not; I will keep you, and your little ones." And he comforted them, and spoke kindly to them.

And Joseph dwelt in Egypt, he, and his father's house; and Joseph lived a hundred and ten years. And Joseph saw Ephraim's children of the third generation; and the children also of the son of Manasseh.

And Joseph said to his brothers, "I die; but God will surely remember you, and bring you up out of this land to the land which He swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob." And Joseph took an oath of the children of Israel, saying, "God will surely remember you, and ye shall carry up my bones from here."

So Joseph died, being a hundred and ten years old. And they embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt. —Genesis, Chapters 47-50.